The People's Korea

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DPRK Witnesses Remarkable Qualitative Changes in Its Industry As Nation Completes 2nd 7-Year Plan With Annual Growth Rate of 12.2%

The DPRK said for the past 7 years its industrial output grew by an annual average of 12.2 percent, and the national income in 1984 was 1.8 times the 1977 figure as the nation fulfilled the second 7-Year Plan (1978–1984).

These figures were disclosed by a report published by the Central Statistical Board of the DPRK. (See pages 2 & 3)

The report said that the second 7-Year Plan was successfully carried out, bringing a fast development of the Juche-based industry and its remarkable qualitative changes. "In the industrial domain the second 7-Year Plan was overfulfilled in terms of the gross output value," the report said.

Here are other interesting figures contained in the report by the Central Statistical Board:

During the period, the gross industrial output value registered a 2.2-fold growth, of which the means of production 2.2 times and consumer goods 2.1 times.

The average annual growth rate of industrial output reached 12.2 percent in the period.

The second 7-Year Plan targets of coal, cement, chemical fertilizers, textiles and aquatic products were successfully beaten at the end of 1984.

In the 1978-1984 period the output of major industrial output grew remarkably. **(See chart)**

A new leap and advance was made in the development of agriculture during the period of the fulfilment of the second 7-Year Plan, to beat the 10 million ton target in grain production last year.

A signal success was made in transport in the period the total railway freight transport augmented 1.8 times and railways extending more than 1,500 kilometers were switched over to electric traction.

Brilliant achievements were made in the grand nature-remaking and city construction.

The task to further improve people's living was also successfully carried out.

The national income in 1984 was 1.8 times the 1977 figure.

The real income of the factory and office workers went up 1.6 times and that of the farmers 1.4 times in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

In the period, new modern flats were provided to hundreds of thousands of working people's households.

A big stride was made in the fulfilment of the cultural revolution.

At the end of 1984 the number of the universities reached 216 and colleges 576 and that of the technicians and specialists grew to 1.25 million.

More than 1,300 movies and thousands of revolutionary artistic works were created in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

With the living standards of the working people rising day by day and health services improving further still, the people's life expectancy at birth was extended 36 years compared with the preliberation days to reach 74.

Production Increases of Major Industrial Goods in the Plan's Period(1978-1984)
[Compared with 1977]

Electricity	178%	Chemical fibre	180%
Coal	150%	Synthetic resin	240%
Steel	185%	Cement	178%
Machine tool	167%	Textiles	145%
Tractor	150%	Shoes	153%
Automobile	120%	Aquatic products	220%
Coal cutter	420%	Foodstuff & luxury goods	220%
Excavator	270%	Cultural goods & daily necessaries	250%
Chemical fertilizer	156%		

Average Annual Industrial Growth Rate

Prewar Period	1947-50	49.9%
3-Year Plan	1954-56	41.7%
5-Year Plan (completed in 4 years)	1957-60	36.6%
7-Year Plan (extended by 3 years)	1961-70	12.8%
6-Year Plan	1971-76	16.3%
2nd 7-Year Plan	1978-84	12.2%

Time & Newsweek Held Up in S. Korea

Newsweek magazine which carried a cover photo and story of Mr. Kim Dae Jung's return in its Feb. 18 Asian edition, was held up in south Korea as one measure of the Seoul junta's continued fears of Mr. Kim's popular appeal. Photo shows a "government" official checking the story on Mr. Kim.

Meanwhile, a south Korean who asked not to be identified said that the Feb. 18 issue of Time magazine did not appear in south Korean bookstores. Time also carried a story and photos on Mr. Kim's homecoming and its impact in that issue.

S. Korean Soldier Defects to North

A south Korean soldier defected to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at around 8 hours 20 minutes, February 19, reported the official Korean Central News Agency on February 20.

He is the first south Korean who sought freedom in the north this year.

He is reported to have fled to the north, carrying with him weapons and combat outfit.

The 21-year-old soldier is identified as Pfc. Ra Il Yong belonging to the 9th company, 3rd battalion, 65th regiment, 21st division of the south Korean army, according to the KCNA.

Pfc. Ra cited disillusionment with harsh army life and the anti-popular social system of south Korea as a main motive for his desertion.

The KCNA said that he is now under warm protection by a DPRK organ concerned.

First Joint Venture Stores Opened in Pyongyang

The DPRK's first joint venture department store was opened on February 18 in its capital of Pyongyang under the joint management of Koreans and Korean businessmen in Japan, reported the KCNA on February 19.

It is the first joint venture company ever established since the DPRK adopted an epoch-making joint venture law in last September.

The joint venture, Rakwon Department Store, is run by the Korean Rakwon Trading Company in Pyongyang and the Korean-Japanese Company Ltd. in Tokyo, and deals in cloth, clothing, furniture, musical instruments, applied arts, living necessaries and foodstuffs.

The agreement between the two companies calls for 30 branches to be set in Pyongyang and other cities throughout the country.

The joint venture law was enacted on September 8, 1984 as a step to expand its economic and technological exchanges and cooperation with foreign countries.

According to the Far Eastern Economic Review dated Jan. 17, the European Parliament has initiated a formal study of prospects for opening trade relations with Pyongyang.

The opening of a joint-venture department store following the fulfilment of the 2nd 7-Year Plan shows that the Korean economy has grown viable enough to undertake joint venture with foreign countries.

Report of DPRK Central Statistical Board on Fulfilment of 2nd 7-Year Plan (1978-1984)

The Korean Central News Agency on Feb. 18 reported that the Central Statistical Board of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a report on the fulfilment of the second 7-Year Plan (1978-1984) for the development of the national economy.

Here is a summary of the report:

Average Annual Growth Rate of Industrial Output 12.2 Percent

In the period of the fulfilment of the second 7-Year Plan (1978-1984) the gross industrial output value registered a 2.2-fold growth and the average annual growth rate of industrial output reached 12.2 percent and 17,785 modern factories and workshops were built and put into operation.

In this period the Juche-oriented industry witnessed a rapid development and a great qualitative change.

In the period from 1978 to 1984 the gross industrial output value registered a 2.2-fold growth, of which the means of production 2.2 times and consumer goods 2.1 times. The average annual growth rate of industrial output reached 12.2 percent in this period.

At the end of 1984, the production goals of coal, cement, chemical fertilizers, textiles and aquatic products for the second 7-Year Plan were attained successfully.

The growth of the output of major industrial goods in the 1978-1984 period was as follows:

Products	Growth compared with 1977 (%)
Electricity	178
Coal	150
Steel	185
Machine tool	167
Tractor	150
Automobile	120
Coal cutter	4.2 times
Excavator	2.7 times
Chemical fertilizer	156
Chemical fibre	180
Synthetic resin	2.4 times
Cement	178
Textiles	145
Shoes	153
Aquatic products	2.2 times
Output value of foodstuffs and luxury goods	2.2 times
Output value of cultural goods and daily necessaries	2.5 times

The period from 1978 to 1984 witnessed the construction and commissioning of 17,785 modern factories and workshops in the industrial domains. Among those completed were the Taedonggang Power Station, Workshop No. 3 at the Sodusu Power Station, the expansion projects of the Pukchang Thermal Power Station, the Chongjin Thermal Power Station, the Namri Power Station, the Mirim Lock Gate Power Station, the Ponghwa Lock Gate, the expansion projects of the Anju District Coal Mining complex, Ore Dressing Plant No. 3 of the Komdok General Mining Enterprise, Ore Dressing Plant No. 2 of the Sangnong Mine, the expansion projects of the Musan Mine, the Rolling Mill, cold rolling shop, tin plate shop and zinc plate shop at the Kim Chaek Iron Works, the section steel rolling shop at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the iron rod rolling shop at the Kangson Steel Complex, the first stage project of the Tanchon Smeltery, the Pyongbuk Smeltery, Hungnam Smeltery No. 2, the Taean General Heavy Machine Works, the large-size machine tool shop of the Ryongsong Machine Complex, the oxygen separator factory of the Rakwon Machine Plant, the high pressure polyethylene shop and the orlon shop of the Namhung Youth General Chemical Works, the movilon shop at the February 8 Vinalon Complex, the expansion projects of the Sungri Chemical Factory, the sulphuric acid shop of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the Hamhung Herbicide Factory, the 110 metre revolving kiln at the Tanchon Magnesia Clinker Factory, the August 2 Cement Factory, Factory No. 121, the Taedonggang Television Factory and the Pyongyang Flour Processing Combine.

In the 1978-1984 period the hydraulic and thermal power generating capacity doubled. As a result of the building of many large-scale hydro-electric and thermal power stations and small- and medium-scale power stations, our power base was expanded and further consolidated in quality.

A large modern ore dressing plant with an annual processing capacity of 10 million tons of non-ferrous metal ores was built in Komdok and mines in the Tanchon District and Ryanggang Province were reconstructed and expanded on a large scale.

The existing smelteries were expanded and new modern ones constructed, with the result that the non-ferrous metal smelting and processing base was consolidated beyond comparison.

Thus, a solid foundation was laid to attain the 1.5 million ton goal of non-ferrous metals ahead of the set time. Researches into the method of iron production by use of domestic fuel were conducted and completed, and Juche-oriented iron production bases were built up on a large scale at the iron and steel works, blasting furnaces reconstructed and rolling and second-stage metal processing bases expanded to strengthen the independence of the metal industry.

In the period of the fulfilment of the plan the production of various chemical fibres and synthetic resin was expanded, production bases of acid, alkali and carbide and many new minor chemical factories were built up to speedily increase the production of basic chemical goods, with the result that a big success was registered in developing the chemical industry in reliance upon domestic resources.

In the 1978-1984 period the machine industry grew 2.3 times. Our machine industry successfully manufactured various kinds of large-size excavating machines including coal-cutting combines, high-speed tunnelling machines, revolving well-drilling machines and lorry "Chaju 82," and large machine tools such as 70-metre planing machine, large gantry processing combine, large all-purpose milling machine, and crank processing combine and many other large precision machines and supplied a large amount of machines needed for carrying out the technical revolution and the construction of modern factories in various domains of the national economy and grand nature-remaking projects.

Today our Juche-oriented industry is able to give fuller play to its might and it has turned into a powerful foundation for heightening the speed of advance of socialist construction and attaining the new long-range goals ahead of the set time.

10 Million-Ton Grain Production

A proud victory was achieved in the agricultural domain under the guidance of the party. The 10 million ton goal of grain production was attained last year which marked the 20th anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses.

A rapid development also was made in stockbreeding, pomiculture, sericulture, production of industrial crops and all other agricultural domains, besides in grain production.

In the 1978-1984 period more than 200 reservoirs including the Changdok, the Songnae, the Ryongnam, the Ryongho, the Singwang and the September 18 and the Namdung Reservoirs, over 3,000 water pumping stations and a large number of establishments for using underground water were built and the area under irrigation expanded 1.4 times.

Thus the successes in irrigation have been further expanded and consolidated in our country.

A big success was registered in the comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization of agriculture.

Many new heavy industrial factories and farm machine stations directly serving the technical revolution in the countryside made their appearance and various kinds of highly efficient modern machines including rice-transplanting machines, rice seedling-plucking machines and rice harvesters were supplied to the countryside in large quantities.

Compared with 1977, the number of the tractors serving agriculture increased 1.5 times and that of lorries 1.3 times, trailers 1.7 times, trailing ploughs 1.3 times, weeding machines 2 times, thrashing combines 1.4 times, rice-transplanting machines 1.5 times, rice seedling-plucking machines 12 times and harvesters 6.3 times and sprinklers 2.3 times in 1984.

The supply of chemical fertilizers to agriculture increased 1.6 times and that of various agricultural medicines 2 times in the same period.

Today our country has reached a high level of mechanization and chemicalization in agriculture and a solid foundation was laid to free our peasants from toilsome work and achieve a greater growth of agricultural productivity.

(Continued on page 3)

The Kim Chaek Iron Works is effecting innovations in the production of rolled steel.

Report

(FROM PAGE 2)

Railway Electrification Near Completion

Railways extending more than 1,500 kilometres were switched over to electric traction with big efforts directed to railway electrification in the period of the fulfilment of the second 7-Year Plan and thus railway electrification is near completion in Korea.

In the period of the fulfilment of the second 7-Year Plan the railway freight transport augmented 1.8 times and the material and technical foundations of railway transport were further consolidated.

As a result of big efforts continuously directed to raiway electrification, railways extending more than 1,500 kilometres including those between Kowon and Pongsan, Kilju and Hyesan, Sinanju and Huichon, Taedonggang and Sinsongchon, Rajin and Tumangang, Pyongyang and Nampo, and Koin and Manpo were switched over to electric traction.

In this period the proportion of haulage by electric locomotives rose to 88.3 percent from 67 percent and railway electrification entered the stage of completion.

Electric locomotives, waggons and other railway rolling stock increased in number, heavy rails were introduced in many railway sections and centralized goods stations and depots equipped with modern loading and unloading machines were built in Kowon, Manpo and other places.

The volume of concentrated freight transport increased 1.6 times, container transport 13 times and combined railway-motor-water communication 1.3 times through the brilliant implementation of the three methods of transport policy in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

Many roads including the Pyongyang-Wonsan and Pyongyang-Nampo express highways were built and the volume of auto freight transport jumped 2.2 times in the same period.

Ship freight transport increased 2.8 times in the period. Especially, Nampo, Hungnam, Haeju, Songrim and other trade ports were reconstructed and expanded and the number of the large cargo ships increased, with the result that the foreign shipping volume grew 5.1 times.

The cable-belt conveyer-pipeline transport system was widely introduced at the coal and ore mines and other domains of the national economy as required by the policy of three ways of transport. The volume of transport by it doubled.

Successes in Grand Nature-Remaking and Urban Construction

The brilliant successes were registered in grand nature-remaking and urban construction in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

The reclamation of tideland and the construction of the Nampo Lock Gate and the Taechon power station made fast progress in accordance with the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Party, with the result that large-scale tideland projects including the tideland around Taegye and Ryongmae islets and Pontongchon basin and the most difficult projects in the construction of the Nampo Lock Gate and the Taechon Power Station were successfully carried out to open a definite prospect for the successful fulfilment of vast nature-remaking projects.

The building of the northern railway progressed apace.

The Tower of Juche Idea and the Arch of Triumph, grand monumental edifices, were splendidly erected in Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, under the guidance of the party to glorify forever the undying revolutionary feats of President Kim Il Sung and greatly contribute to the education in the Juche idea and the revolutionary traditions. And modern Changgwang and Munsu streets took shape and many monumental structures such as the Kim Il Sung Stadium, the Grand People's Study House, the Mansudae Assembly Hall, the Changgwang Health Complex, the Ice Rink, the Chongryu Restaurant, the Pyongyang First Department Store, the Mangyongdae Fun Fair, the Kaeson Youth Park, the metro between Hyoksin and Kwangbok stations, the Chungsong Bridge and the Rakrang Bridge were built.

In the period of the fulfilment of the plan, many monumental structures also made their appearance in the local areas. Among them are the Grand Samjiyon Open-Air Revolutionary Museum, the Hamhung Students and Children's House, the Yonpung Children's Camp, the North Pyongan Provincial Art Theatre, and the Hamhung Grand Theatre. And Nampo, Wonsan, Hamhung, Chongjin, Tanchon and other local towns were reconstructed on modern lines and rural villages including Yonha-*ri* in Uiji county, Tongrim-*ri* in Mundok county, Kosan-*ri* in Manpo municipality and Unjong village in Okbyon-*ri*, Unpa county, were rendered a more modern appearance.

People's Living Improved

In 1984 the national income grew 1.8 times as against 1977.

Under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung and the deep care of the party, popular measures of radical significance in enhancing the living standards of the working people were taken on several occasions in the period of carrying out the second 7-Year Plan.

In this period clothes, shoes, various kinds of school things and foostuffs were supplied free to all the children and students from primary school children to the university students throughout the country three times under the care of the party.

All the peasants across the country were supplied free with wadded coats of good quality in 1979 and high-quality bedclothes and various kinds of foodstuffs were supplied free to all the households of the country in 1982.

These benevolent measures of our party alone brought to our working people additional benefits amounting to 2,940 million won, all told, or an average of more than 800 won per household.

Besides, billions of won was alloted every year for satisfactorily enforcing a wide range of popular measures at state expense.

In the 1978-1984 period, the real income of the factory and office workers rose 1.6 times and that of the farmers 1.4 times and the life of the factory and office workers and the farmers was evenly improved.

Energetic efforts were made to implement the party's policy of effecting revolution in light industry and services to further improve the supply of commodities to the working people and the service work for them.

With the purchasing power of the working people growing rapidly in the towns and villages, the retail turnover went up 1.9 times in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

A vast housing construction was carried out in towns and villages in the period to provice the working people with modern houses for hundreds of thousands of families.

1.25 Million Technicians and Specialists

The number of the higher educational institutions increased in the period. As of the end of 1984, the number of the universities reached 216 and that of the colleges 576 and technicians and specialists grew to 1.25 million in number, with many new native technical personnel trained.

A great progress was made in carrying on the cultural revolution.

The quality of the universal compulsory eleven-year education and the training of native cadres was further raised through endeavours for the implementation of "Theses on Socialist Education".

Many schools of different levels including the Pyongyang First Senior Middle School equipped with modern educational facilities and experimental and practice bases were built to strengthen the material and technical foundations of education.

Under the wise guidance of the party the splendid allround location centre of the Korean Film Studio was built, literary and art creation bases consolidated and more than 1,300 movies including "Star of Korea," "Mt. Paekdu," "The Revolutionary," "The County Party Chief Secretary," "A Single Heart," "The Pledge Made That Day," "The Nalmi Island," "A Loyal Heart" and "The 14th Winter" and thousands of revolutionary artistic works were created.

In health services over 290 modernly equipped prophylactic and therapeutic organs including the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, the Pyongyang Namsan Clinic, the Pyongyang Dental Preventive Hospital, the South Hamgyong Provincial Dental Preventive Hospital, the Kanggye Medical University Hospital, the hospital attached to the Komdok General Mining Enterprise and Tokchon County People's Hospital were built and the number of the doctors grew 1.4 times and that of the hospital beds 106 percent in the period of the fulfilment of the plan.

The life expectancy at birth of our people lengthened 36 years compared with that in the pre-liberation days to reach 74 years, with the daily betterment of the working people's living and the improvement of health services.

EDITORIAL

Reagan's Dangerous Line of Increasing Nuclear Armaments

The Reagan administration submitted on Feb. 4 a FY 1986 U.S. defense report, a FY 1986 federal budget and a report on the military to Congress.

These are consistent with Reagan's policy of increasing nuclear armaments based on a hard line toward the Soviet Union.

The new budget, set at $313.7 billion, allocates almost one-third of it for military establishments.

A military buildup eventually leads to war. The core of the defense report was Reagan's so-called strategic nuclear modernization program for "star wars." It aims at showing off America's "almighty prowess."

It is noteworthy that the report pays special attention to the Pacific and East Asian region, a new trend visible since last autumn. Washington urges "allies" and "friendly countries" to strengthen "their roles" in the security of the region. In East Asia it means vigorous moves to beef up the U.S.-Japan-south Korea military alliance.

It was reported already at the end of last year that U.S.-Japan joint studies on bilateral military operations were completed. According to the defense report, recently the U.S. and south Korea reached an agreement to supply the American military with "ships" and "aircraft" in wartime, and the U.S. provides south Korea with $228 million credits for purchases of U.S. made-hard ware.

Citing "a threat from the Soviet Union" and "preparations for invasion of the south by north Korea," the report tries to rationalize modernization of south Korea's military forces.

The report states U.S. supports for improvement of the joint operations capabilities, improvement of command, control, communication and information system (C3I), expansion of an oil stockpiles facilities and emergency airport facilities, and increased sustained war fighting capability. Furthermore, the outlays for storing wartime supplies for U.S. troops in south Korea show an increase of $360 million.

This implies that the U.S. regards south Korea as one of its military bases and as a front nuclear base against the DPRK and the Soviet Union.

At present, the United States is staging the "Team Spirit 85," U.S.-south Korea joint military exercises in south Korea, involving more than 200,000 U.S. and south Korean military troops, many airlifted from the American mainland and Japan. It is worsening tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The reports and the defense budget show that Reagan's war brinkmanship is far from rhetoric.

The Korean people hope for the independent and peaceful reunification of their own country and want to see the American and south Korean authorities agree to the tripartite talks. They had not threatened America at all in the past and the present and it is not necessary for them to do so. They will not do so in the future. Nevertheless, the Reagan administration deploys nuclear weapons and over 40,000 military troops on the Korean Peninsula, 10,000 miles away from the U.S. mainland.

"Elections", No More Than Burlesque for Chon's Long-Term Office: Pyongyang

Rodong Sinmun on Feb. 14 came out with a signed commentary titled "Elections or Power Robbery?" which reads in part:

The so-called "elections to the 12th National Assembly" were held in south Korea on February 12.

According to an information of the south Korean Central Election Committee on February 13, more candidates of the ruling "Democratic Justice Party" than opposition candidates were "returned" in the "regional constituencies."

This means that it has grabbed the greater part of the "National Assembly seats," taking into account the "national constituency seats" which automatically fall into the hand of the "leading party" winning the majority votes.

The spokesman of the "Democratic Justice party" tried to justify the "returns" of its members, claiming that the "elections" were "fair elections unprecedented in history" and "there could be no unfair votes."

The "elections" were held in a horrifying atmosphere with the "Team Spirit 85" war game going on all over south Korea and all the police mobilised under arms.

Before the "elections" the south Korean junta set off waves of wholesale arrests under the pretext of "round-up of election offenders" and "maintenance of order," in the course of which they rounded up students and people of all walks of life demanding the democratisation of society and fair elections, put democratic figures and members of democratic organisations under house arrest and issued an "order of wholesale roundup" of tens of thousands of "blacklisted people" on February 9, with the voting three days off.

The "Democratic Justice Party" had field to itself in the "elections," with the opposition candidates bound hand and foot and the opposition campaigners placed under strict watch and restrictions.

Even with power and money, however, the "Democratic Justice Party" failed to obtain the overwhelming majority in the "elections," but lost "seats." And the "New Korea Democratic Party" just inaugurated with a platform for democracy won a lot of seats.

This is indicative of the people's opposition to dictatorship and their desire for democracy.

The south Korean people opposed to dictatorship had come out from the beginning against the "elections" which were no more than a burlesque for laying the foothold of the present dictator for long-term office.

The "Democratic Justice Party," the private party of the present dictator, has been the main target of the struggle of the south Korean people, which has long since incurred their hatred.

Reporting about a case of the struggle of the south Korean people against the fraudulent elections on their eve, a U.S. paper said that it was the biggest anti-"government" demonstration after 1980.

Is it conceivable that the "Democratic Justice Party" cursed by all the people could win majority votes in the "elections"?

The "elections" were hardly worth being called elections.

They were no more than a burlesque for legalising the dictatorship with the veil of "elections."

The votes got by the "Democratic Justice Party" were snatched with power and money, as the case had been with all the previous "elections."

The latest "elections" were a product of the stratagem for keeping the present dictator in power for a long period.

Chon Du Hwan has hammered repeatedly away at his chosen theme that he would step down at the expiration of his term, not remaining in office for the second term. But this is the same hoax as had been customarily practised by the defunct dictators.

A few days before the "elections" the "Democratic Justice Party" announced that the "presidential candidate" for the next term would be nominated in 1987.

This was telltale sign that the stage was already being set for the long-term office of the present dictator.

The "elections" in which the "Democratic Justice Party" made a mockery of the voters, were a "power" robbery in essence.

As its four year's course proves, the "Democratic Justice Party" is a treacherous and splittist party which has engaged itself in fascism and treacheris, saber-rattling and national division.

It is going to remain a ruling party on the strength of the "election returns".

But the people will not tolerate its fascist dictatorship.

The prolongation of the power of the "Democratic Justice Party" committed to fascism and anti-communist confrontation, flunkeyist treacheries and division will only spell new disasters to the south Korean people.

It is the vital demand of the people and the pressing question awaiting solution to democratise socio-political life in south Korea today.

Only when the south Korean society is democratised can the people be free and a prospect of peaceful reunification be opened.

If democracy is to be achieved, the dictatorship standing in its way must be terminated and a democratic government be set up.

The south Korean people know from long ago through their own experiences that an oppressor does not step down of his own accord and "a peaceful transfer of power" is a lie.

The "elections" brazenly rigged against democracy show that the insatiable desire of the present rulers for power has not abated at all.

But violence will lead them nowhere.

At this very moment the south Korean people continue their undaunted anti-dictatorship and anti-fascist sturggle for democracy to win democratic rights and freedom.

The dictatorship of the Chon Du Hwan junta cannot last long.

Police Seize 3,000 Copies of NCDU Magazine

The south Korean police on Feb. 13 seized all the 3,000 copies of the January issue of "Democracy and Unification", the magazine published by the National Congress for Democracy and Unification, a strong dissident organisation, according to a report from Seoul.

The organization had requested two printing houses in Seoul to print the magazine.

But the police seized the magazine through the police just before its delivery after printing, complaining that it contained something "problematic."

Yonsei & Sung Kyun Kwan Univs. Closed

The south Korean authorities closed Yonsei University in Seoul for 4 days from Feb. 13 under the pretext of temporary closure, according to south Korean papers.

More than 100 agents were posted at its doors totally banning entrance of students and over 400 police in uniform or plainclothes and combat police formed a strict cordon around the university.

The Yonsei University students earlier had planned to hold their function in this period under the sponsorship of the General Student Council.

Seoul authorities took such repressive measure to head it off.

Meanwhile, Sung Kyun Kwan University was also closed on Feb. 14 by posting more than 500police around it, thus frustrating the Cultural Festival planned by students.

Students Arrested for Demonstrations

Chong Jong Ok, a woman student of Kyong Hee University, who had always fought courageously at the head of the struggle for democracy against dictatorship together with her fellow students, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Also arrested were Kim Am, a student of Seoul National University, on the 18th on charges of participation in the anti-"Democratic Justice Party" demonstrations.

On the same day, south Korean police disciplined more than 1,900 students at SNU, expelling 210 students, of them on the trite charge of "poor school records in the second term."

Students Brand "Elections" As Illegal

Against the Feb. 12 "election farce" the south Korean students had waged a fierce anti-"election" campaign as they branded it as an illegal one to seek Chon's long-term office.

Earlier, the students had formed the Countermeasure Committee for the "Elections" at each school.

On the other hand, the General Students Council was organized last November with 42 universities in urban and rural areas as an united students organization to represent voice of the ers pan south Korean students.

Under the unified leadership of the federation, students launched a large-scale anti-"election" struggle, including guerrilla-style demonstrations in central part of Seoul, appealing the citizens to boycott the Feb. 12 "elections."

Meanwhile, the students campaign got further momentum in waging a 1-million signature-collection campaign against the "general elections" with the united strengths of the Youth Federation for Democratization organized by working youths.

The students called upon the audience of joint stumping rallies to deadly oppose to the dictatorhsip of the "Democratic Justice Party" soon after the announcement on Jan. 23, while distributing leaflets against the illegal "elections."

Illegal Acts of DJP in "Elections" Revealed

Illegal vote-getting acts by the Chon junta were revealed in the Feb. 12 "general elections.', according to the south Korean paper Chungang Ilbo dated Feb. 11.

The paper said there is a case that a voting notice was sent to the address of a man who died 3 years ago.

In other case, the paper noted, a voting form was sent to the man who immigrated the United States 4 years ago.

Mr. Li, 52, company employee in Seoul, was sent a ballot notice of his father who died in 1981.

Mr. Kwon, 43, company employee, received a vote notice of a woman named "Li Yong Mi," whom he had never met.

To Mr. So, 47, resident in Seoul, a voting form was sent in the name of Kwon Pil Ok, 30, his wife's brother who immigrated the United States 4 years ago.

3 Opposition Parties Denounce Supression in "Elections"

Three opposition parties of south Korea published statements on Feb. 11, denouncing the official obstruction of their "election" campaigns, the south Korean paper Dong-A Ilbo reported.

In its statement the Democratic Korea Party pointed out that the "police forces blocked all alleys and totally froze the election campaign of opposition parties."

The Korea National Party in its statement said, "With the elections at hand the government and the ruling party mobilized a large combat police and set up posts guarded by plainclothesmen, while, creating a terror-ridden atmosphere to obstruct the election campaign of opposition parties and openly suppressed them."

The New Korea Democratic Party in a statement noted, "On the threshold of the elections of police openly walked off candidates and election canvassers of the New Korea Democratic Party, shadowed and threatened them in the whole area of south Korea, thus creating a terrible atmosphere and paralyzing the election campaign of the opposition parties."

More than 90 pastors, youths and students belonging to the south Korean Christian organizations held the third meeting of Christians to win democracy on Feb. 11 in Seoul and published a statement, the south Korean paper Chosun Ilbo reported.

In the statement they made to the south Korean authorities a 7-point demand including the "revision of the constitution for direct presidential elections", a total lift of ban on political activities, introduction of the minimum wage system and punishment of those responsible for the Kwangju incident.

Kim Yong Sam Demands Revision of "Constitution"

Kim Yong Sam, president of the now defunct New Democratic Party, demanded the revision of the present "constitution" for a direct "election" of the "president", according to a report of radio Voice of America.

He said, "Unless the president is elected by direct votes of the electors, a peaceful change of power is impossible in south Korea."

He made this remarks when interviewed by the Japanese Kyodo News

NKDP Issues Declaration Calling for Democracy

The New Korea Democratic Party in south Korea was reported by the Japanese paper Asahi Shimbun on Feb. 19 to have held a meeting on the previous day in Seoul, where it issued a declaration to the people.

The NKDP in its declaration called for a probe into the truth of the Kwangju incident still kept in dark, lift of ban on political activities, abolition of the "basic press law" and revision of all fascist evil laws.

Its president Li Min U was quoted as saying at the meeting "If the present regime continues to ignore the people's will, not reflecting on its conduct, it will be sternly judged by the people and meet an unhappy end."

* * *

450 Workers Wage Sit-Down

Some 450 workers of the Taeyang Optical Company, Ltd. in Taegu, southern provincial capital, staged a sit-down strike on Feb. 18 calling for the payment of their wages in arrears, according to a radio report from south Korea.

The workers turned out to the street in front of the company and condemned the harsh exploitation by the employer, demanding an immediate payment of their wage in arrears amounting to 130 million won.

Upset by this, the employer called the police to disperse them, but they fought unyieldingly for a few hours.

Rights to Existence Demanded

Graduates and their parents, more than 1,200 in all, at a graduation ceremony of Seoul Education University on Feb. 18, denounced the lie of the south Korean authorities that jobs would be offered to the students after graduation and called for guarantee for their employment, according to a south Korean radio report.

On the same day the bus drivers and conductresses of the Taewon Passenger Company in Chinju, South Kyongsang Province, boycotted bus operation in demand of the payment of their wages in arrears.

Their struggle suspended bus services on 10 roads, including those to Pusan and Taegu, southern capital cities.

Labour Accidents

Labour accidents in south Korea last year claimed 159,300 casualties, causing 1,660 deaths, according to a radio report from Seoul.

156,920 workers were dead or wounded in labour accidents during their work in 1983, the report said.

— Article of South Korean Monthly Magazine —

40 Years' Unrequited Love (1)

By Son Wan Sang

The south Korean monthly magazine "Wolgan Chosun" (Monthly Korea) carried an article "40 Years' Unrequited Love," written by Mr. Han Wan Sang who had been virtually expelled to the United States by the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan for 3 years since 1981, was reinastated as professor of Seoul National University last year.

He said in the article, "I think that past 40 years have been years of our (south Korean) meaningless one-side love (for the U.S.)," urging the south Koreans to "deeply reflect upon once more the American influence in the past 40 years which is deeply rooted in our (south Korean) life."

Follows the first of the series of six installments:

* * *

Mr. R., It is already 4 months since I left there (the United States). We have now greeted the New Year.

I felt so bitter in my heart when I left the airport, sent off by my beloved family and my dear friends.

That was not only because I tried to control the sorrow of parting but because I felt an undescribable grief over the conditions of both my homeland and the United States which I keenly felt during my 3-year-stay there.

Mr. R., It's more than 4 months since I came here (south Korea).

It is also already 40 years this year since we celebrated our national liberation. I think that now is the time to deeply reflect upon once more the American influence in the past 40 years which is deeply rooted in our life.

I believe that we must examine the true meaning of "relationships sealed in blood" in the last 40 years.

Mr. R., Frankly speaking, I think that past 40 years have been years of our meaningless one-sided love (for the U.S.).

I believe you will agree to my opinion.

But there are lots of people who do not think that way.

It seems that they simply regard this idea as "dangerous" thinking of those who know nothing about the world.

Of course, I do not intend to insist strongly that relationships between the two countries have always been of one-sided love.

One-sided love can be a kind of pure love and it may be a marvelous thing in the sense that one can let one's heart go out to a fine object worthwhile.

The problem is that we should have loved an object worthy of receiving our pure hearts.

Mr. R., As you know, I'm concerned about the mental state of the Americans which has reached a gravely dangerous point.

In the past few years, I have been strongly aware of a tough wall of within my self, a kind of wall which I did not feel 20 years ago in the 1960s – a wall of stubbornness or a hard shell of inferiority complex enveloped by self-respect, or a wall of new racial discrimination – in the past few years during which I met many Americans, talking and having meetings with them, or giving lectures or sermons at other times.

When I graduated from a university in the United States in the 60s, I neither knew that real state of American society, nor did I try to do so, as I went back and forth between the library or the study room of the university and my apartment.

Until then, I had been thinking only of making a triumphant return to my homeland.

I did not have much interest in the conditions of American society at that time.

After I returned to my homeland in 1970, I was subjected to humiliation many times and an indescribably harsh wind of history finally compelled me to go to the United States again in the 1980s.

I met people in all walks of life in rural and urban areas, university people, church and public organisations and had contacts with many Americans and Koreans resident in the United States.

In the course of these contacts, I came to understand to some extent for the first time the characteristic traits of Americans and the nature of America.

Wave of Conservatism for World Supremacy

Mr. R., I'm now yearning after the so-called "American Century" which, the Americans think, has already gone.

It seems to me that they feel kindly toward that short period of climax, when they loudly cried for "Pax Americana."

This very nolstagia for the reactionary past is driving the Americans into a dangerous mental state.

I can strongly feel this dangerously romantic aspect of reaction.

Mr. R., as you may be concerned, a new wave of Conservatism called "Moral Majority" gave Mr. Reagan a boost to his bid for presidency, and America is going to consolidate its supremacy firmly in the world.

The Americans claim the United States should attain a glorious supremacy over the world with the help of God.

Their shrill cries sound like the frantic outcry of the Germans in the early 1930s.

Their cries are for a strong leader.

Do you think I am oversensitive?

As you know, history does not always move in a way favourable to the great powers?

When I went to the United States in 1981, I felt at least two things which I did not feel in the 60s – One is that meals seemed to be by far salty, and the other was that mini cars came to overflow on the streets.

I am sure you can understand at once what I mean, as you went to the United States in the 60s to study.

Then, we would feel sick over meals because they were too greasy.

Don't you remember that period during which we felt homesick, yearning after our hometown and Kimchi (typical Korean pickles)?

However, American meals seem to have become salty these days.

Americans also agree with me.

It seems to me that change of their taste for salty dishes has something to do with a social transformation of America into a salty one.

The image of the U.S. as a "generous country", which once worked out and carried out the Marshal Plan for the reconstruction of the devastated Europe after World War II, seems to have gone forever.

The strategically "generous" United States, a country generous in helping other countries with voluntary support, seems to have now turned into something stingy and shabby, as it is compelled to build up a high wall of protectionism, regarding the Third World as her rival.

The welfare policy of the U.S. government has been largely scaled down in the last few years so that the administration must be regarded by poor Americans as having become salty.

As the government has become tough to its own people, it must be tougher to people in other countries.

Just think of scholarships for university students.

These have changed tremendously as comapred with those in the 1960s, when we were university students.

German-made mini cars were rarely seen on highways in the 1960s and most cars on there were large-sized ones.

As the American smartness was partly their preference for large-sized goods, I can not but be surprised to see their automobiles changed to small-sized ones.

I mean that the streets are full of Japanese-made cars.

Doesn't the popularity of mini cars mean that the Americans' ego has been reduced in size?

The giant America has turned into a dwarf, hasn't it?

I think the harm done to their pride must be extremely traumatic.

Joint Winter Aerial Mobile Exercise

The U.S. and the south Korean junta staged a provocative joint winter aerial exercise as part of the "Team Spirit 85" joint military rehearsal in the central sector of the front on Feb. 16, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The frantic exercise resembling a real war involved air force units of the American and south Korean army forces and a large amount of military equipment and forces.

Violation of Human Rights

The south Korean paper Hankook Ilbo made clear that the south Korean workers have their human rights violated most harshly in the world.

According to a report published by the south Korean "Federation of Human Rights" violations of human rights of workers numbered 1,158 in the first 11 months of last year.

The paper stressed, "South Korea comes first in encroachments upon human rights of working people.

Violations of human rights of workers are most salient in hard work forced by their employers, non-payment of severance pay, wages and compensations for labour accidents, etc."

The DPR of Korea Seen by Norodom Sihanouk (20)

(Continued from the previous issue)

A line of whitewashed gravels runs along the pavement. It makes the boundary are pink azalea and apricot trees and beyond them stretch out fields planted with cereals, cabbage, cucumber and spinach.

The only things which bore no sign of human labour were granite rocks. But, strictly speaking, even they were not free from human hands because they were engraved, in red letters, with slogans remindful of the "Arduous March" and those of the three revolutions. We saw people ploughing the soil and some others planting thousands of saplings of elm, poplar or coniferous trees on the land unsuitable for farming.

Towns and villages destroyed in the 1950's have risen in quite a new shape.

Attractive to my eyes are many parks and green belts shrouded in verdurous trees dotted with blooming daffodils and canna.

Great progress was made in construction. We saw a new block of buildings being built in the middle of a village. The first floor of each building was laid out for shops and other service facilities.

The styles of houses change in the Mt. Myohyang area. Some houses have a curved roof resembling fluttering crane's wings and are very cleanly painted.

The scenic beauty of Mt. Myohyang is matchless throughout the world. Green-capped, the mountain is thickly covered with pine trees. So, scenery is like a painting or a print which elicits the admiration of foreign visitors.

A palace nestles amidst the wood like one of a dreamland in an old tale of fairies. Its blue roof tiles glitter under the azure sky.

The guest house, hotel, public buildings, and juniors' hotel are all built after the same fashion in good harmony with the environment.

Has anyone ever thought that in this out-of-the-way place an edifice which may match the largest of all the palaces in the Arabian Nights' Entertainments was built for "international friendship"?

This granite edifice stands majestically, with its curved roofs, on the rapid stream in which rainbow trouts swim about. It has a total floor space of 28,000 square metres and is well ventilated and modernly equipped.

It has scores of windowless chambers, in each of which light is put on as soon as one steps into it.

This palace, an eternal edifice, has a collection of precious gifts presented to President Kim Il Sung by visitors from over 130 countries, more than 25,000 pieces in all.

Its construction started in 1976 was completed in a very short period and opened in August 1978.

There is no Head of State who received so many gifts as he did. What made him distinguished all the more is that he donated them to the collective, thus arousing the admiration of the public. This International Friendship Exhibition is a wonderful museum graphically showing different cultures in comparison, of which Asia, Africa, and the Middle East hold a majority and in which South America and Europe are also largely represented.

Exhibited there are masterpieces of Indian, Burmese and Khmerian arts, the cars "Jis" and "Jim" presented by Stalin and the "Design" bureau gifted by a French firm. Exhibition rooms are so numerous that it will take a few days to make a list of their exhibits.

The International Friendship Exhibition is also a fine epitome of the modern Korean architecture and art.

Visitors enter this sacred edifice by the front door which consists of 4 bronze flaps with exquisite patterns each weighing 4 tons. Inside the door is the grand entrance hall and its floor with rare patterns, walls, staircase and columns which are coated with ash-colored marble and relieved with patterns of azalea and magnolia look more beautiful under the brilliant rays of a large gem and crystal chandeliers as this are also found in many other public places.

This is an out-of-the-way place 165 kilometres away from Pyongyang. But the exhibition, an original masterpiece, is a place which contains most excellent works of the Korean and world's peoples.

The balcony on its sixth floor, where visitors sip *insam* tea or coffee, affords a view of beautiful surrounding landscape and distant high peak looming through the mist.

The silence all around is only broken by the gurgle of torrents.

Not so far away from the exhibition there is an annex which exhibits two cars, historic gifts presented to President Kim Il Sung by Stalin and Mao Zedong.

In the ancient times this recess blessed with legends and Heaven's care was only visited by monks, deserters of society, who sang hymns in the tranquility which was broken only by the bells hung on an obelisk-type stone pagoda built near the temple.

None had ever thought that this sacred place for meditation and prayer would be ravaged by a war. But everything here was destroyed.

What survived the destruction was only the Pulyong Pavilion in which the Chronological Records of the Li Dynasty were preserved.

The temples, 400-500 years old, were restored to the original state at the instance of President Kim Il Sung. One such is under reconstruction now.

The Pohyon Temple is accessible through two portals called Haetal and Chonwang. At the first portal stand two figures of sentinels, one with a sword in his hand and the other a horned club.

The second portal is guarded by the Four Devas, giants clad in impressive motley-coloured clothes.

The Taeung Hall of the Pohyon Temple has many ornaments and murals. The outside framework of the hall and the gorgeous decorations of its upper part are not put into the shade by the flower patterns engraved on the door. Calmly sitting in an awful shade is Kwanumbosal, golden Buddist image of mercy, looking down over his adherents. Two monks chant a sutra, beating a wooden drum at a high tempo of metronome.

Resting places of traditional style are set up here and there. A beautiful mountain trail is well tended. A 36 kilometre walk along it takes you via the Sangwon Hermitage, to the Chilsong and Chuksong Pavilions. The trail goes up along a rapid stream, and you can see one cascade after another. The elevated trail in front of the hermitage commands a view of uninterrupted scenery consisting of high peaks and deep ravines interlacing each other. And a cascade is seen in one of those ravines.

The roof of the Sangwon Hermitage is supported by 11-metre long beams ornamented with multicoloured patterns which are not put on the pillars. In another small building there is a spring which provides enough clear and refreshing water for the visitors.

Buddhism which was introduced into Korea in ancient times is akin to Mahayana which originated in Tibet.

Other hermitages lie in the recesses of secluded caves. Still today remain here and there egg-shaped tomb stones.

In Mt. Myohyang exist the old traditions and modern artistry, the yesterday and the morrow, in good harmony. President Kim Il Sung saw to it that these old temples were rebuilt and the friendship palace the like of which exists nowhere else in the world built and thus clearly showed the present and future generations that undying Korea which had overcome ordeals was not waning but ever developing and thriving.

The International Friendship Exhibition indicates the international scale of Juche philosophy.

On our way back to Pyongyang, we were led to Anju, an industrial hub located near to a coal mine and a chemical complex.

The hotel on a hill commands a sweeping view of the central park, the broad avenue, well-tended buildings and the immense residential quarters. Apple trees blossom on the hillocks around the hotel.

A bumper harvest is anticipated this year.

(To be continued)

Korean Patintings "A Ravine After Rain" by Mun Hwa Chun, 1983.

Goods Made in DPRK Highly Reputed In the Intl. Commodity Fairs

Goods produced in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are highly praised at international commodity fairs.

In recent 15 years, nearly 90 kinds of goods were awarded gold medals and certificates of prize.

Among the heavy industrial goods the high-speed universal lathe "Kusong No. 3" which smoothly carries out complicated work of various kinds thanks to its great number of rotation and high degree of precision has been awarded three gold medals and special prize. The "S 1-250" automatic lathe also won a gold medal for its high efficiency.

Various types of efficient rice-transplanting machines are produced in Korea which mainly cultivates rice in farming.

Our rice-transplanting machine was awarded a gold medal and special prize at an international commodity fair. This machine can set the number of rice plants per *Pyong* (one *Pyong* is six feet square) from 70 to 170 in view of the geographical conditions in rice farming and plant rice seedlings in 1.5-2.5 hectares a day.

"Kumgang" Cement won a gold medal at the Plovdiv, Bulgaria, international fair in 1979.

(Continued on page 7)

Cosmetic Revision of "Alien Registration Law"

The Japanese Government is going to limit fingerprinting to only once by obliging 16 year-old youths, Japanese papers here reported recently.

The reported decision during the present Diet session, coming at a time when public opinion here and overseas demand a fundamental revision of the Alien Registration Law which empowers the authorities to fingerprint foreign resident.

The Alien Registration Law is chiefly designed to keep Korean nationals here under control.

A total of 500,000 Korean nationals here have been arrested or detained till today from its enactment on charges of violations of the Alien Registration Law.

The law defines many obligations such as fingerprinting, and carrying the Alien Registration Certificate all the time and deals heavy penalties against those who violate the law .

It has recently under fire from various circles here and overseas because that it regards Koreans here as the potential violator of public peace or candidate criminals.

This year, a great many people, more than half of Korean nationals are requested to renew their alien registration certificates.

In Osaka, all the headmen of the 26 wards on Feb. 2, filed joint petitions for abolition of the fingerprinting system and obligation of carrying the alien registration certificates all the time.

In its extraordinary conference, Sohyo (General Council of Trade Union of Japan) also adopted a resolution calling for the revision of the Alien Registration Law, and expressed its resolve "to mobilize all its 4,500,000 members for all-out struggle.

On the other hand, Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) is to undertake to collect 3,000,000 signatures.

As of today, 666 local assemblies has adopted petitions and resolutions, urging a revision of the law, and the movement is expected to pick up momentum with an eye to the Diet session to open in March.

In this situation, the Japanese Government came out with a policy of fingerprinting the aliens only once, but it is doubted if it could be effective though the authorities say it is "a great softening of the fingerprinting system or reexamination of the Alien Registration Law".

Fingerprints don't change all through one's life. So it doesn't solve any problem relating to the Alien Registration Law even though it decreases the number of fingerprinting imposed on foreigners here, unless it would change the nature of the Law that regards Koreans as potential disturbers of public peace.

The Alien Registration Law imposes fingerprinting on foreigners here, the duty usually confined to criminals.

Fingerprinting is originally for the use of criminal investigation, but it was introduced under the Alien Registration Law in 1952.

The Japanese Government has persisted in the fingerprinting system all the time for the following reason: The surest way to determine the identity of the person who carrying an Alien Registration Certificate.

On Feb. 14, 1958, the Minister of Justice said in the Diet session "Fingerprinting is indespensable for the security of Japan".

So Japanese police insist on the necessity of fingerprinting duty so strongly for the preservation of public peace.

The police authorities recently expressed strong objection to the revision of the Alien Registration Law, the Japanese daily Mainichi Shimbun (Feb. 11 issue) recently reported.

The latest step by the Japanese Government is a response to the muchtauted "Japanese-South Korean New Era" which was built up with south Korean dictator Chon's visit to Tokyo. A cosmetic change is looked upon as effective for alleviating the rising outcries over the scandalous practice, it was reported by Feb. 10 issue of the Japanese daily Sankei Shimbun.

What can't be overlooked is that the new measure is a result of the Japanese Government's response to Chon Du Hwan's demand that the fingerprinting duty should be limited to only once if it is impossible to abolish the Alien Registration Law (Sankei Shimbun).

That is, Chon's demand could be understood as approving the Japanese Government's attitude to regard Korean nationals here as potential criminals and threats to public peace.

It doesn't mean a fundamental solution of the Alien Registration Law issues as long as it preserves the duty of fingerprinting and carrying the Alien Registration Certificate all the time and imposes heavy penalty on those who violate the law.

(Continued from page 6)

Millions of tons of "Kumgang" and "Deer" cement are exported to more than 50 countries every year for its high quality. At the end of the 1980s Korea will annually produce 20 million tons of cement.

The light industrial goods of Korea are also popular at the world market.

Among silk cloths, multi-colored cloth patterned with flowers with colored thread won gold medals twice at international commodity fairs.

Insam, a special tonic, which has been cultivated in Kaesong since 2,000 years ago is a most efficient tonic.

Koryo insam won three gold medals at international commodity fairs and "Kaesong Koryo Insamsul" (Insam liquor) was awarded four gold medals.

Embroideries, ceramic ware and pieces of handicraft are also highly praised.

Ceramic ware has so far been awarded three gold medals.

A Korean ceramic manufacture and an object of lacquered craftwork were placed first and an embroidery work (without first) and glassware second at the Second International Folk Handicraft Exhibition which was held recently in Bulgaria.

The embroidery "Tiger" won a gold medal and other medals at exhibitions held in foreign countries and "White Peasant" and "Deer" gold medals at international fairs.

Sports and Culture

Colleges of Arts

● Eleven colleges of arts in different parts of Korea have so far produced more than 4,700 specialists in arts.

They include vocalists, instrumentalists, dancers, fine artists, sculptors and other artists of diverse talent. They are now active as actors and actresses of central and local art troupes or teachers at primary schools, senior middle schools and colleges.

The opening of the Kanggye College of Arts, the first local college of art in Korea, was followed by the appearance of 13-year colleges of arts in all provinces in 1975 to rear many artists every year.

Many Children's Books Published

● Books for senior middle school pupils and children are published in larger copies year after year in Korea.

Above 200 more kinds of books or 8.6 million more copies than the previous year were published last year.

In March last year Mr. Kim Jong Il set forth the task to publish many books for outside reading to conduce to the emotional, intellectual and technical education of the children and students and clearly indicated concrete direction and ways for this.

The publication of books for outside reading and children's books was undertaken by the Kumsong Youth Publishing House, the publishing house of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts, the Working People's Organizations Publishing House and other publishing houses with the participation of many scholars, writers, painters and specialists in all parts of the country.

The books for children include 32 kinds of picture books helpful to emotional education and 15 for their intellectual education.

The publishing houses have brought out "Selection of World's Juvenile Stories and Collections of Folk Stories" from various countries including "Collection of Russian Folk Stories," "Collection of Chinese Folk Stories" and "Collection of Indian Folk Stories".

Changjasan Children's Union Camp

● A ceremony for the first-term admission for this year of children to the Changjasan Children's Union Camp was held on February 16.

Those admitted in the first term are chairmen of Model Children's Union organizations, chairmen of Children's Union branches and Children's Union members throughout the country, 216 all told.

The Workers' Party of Korea fully provided all conditions for pleasant holidays of campers.

The camp is equipped with well-appointed educating rooms, dissemination rooms, and other rooms for indoor activity, grounds for sports and cultural and amusement instruments including all kinds of music instruments, buses, trucks, TV sets, refrigerators, etc. and instruments needed for camping children.

This year the camp has already arranged bedrooms cleanly, readjusted equipment for supply work and made all other preparations so that the camping children may fully enjoy the solicitude of our party.

Feature Film "Trailblazers" (2)

● The Korean Feature Film Studio has produced "Spring in Paekdu Highland," part 2 of feature film "Trailblazers".

The film portrays the trailblazers who break through difficulties and hardships to turn the Paekdu Highland in the northern inland into a fruitful agricultural production base and a people's paradise in hearty response to the far-reaching nature-remaking plan of the President Kim Il Sung.

Jong Min, the hero of the film, and other trailblazers hurl themselves into a drive to hasten sowing, overflowing with fresh strength and courage, upholding the teachings of President Kim Il Sung on bringing a bumper wheel harvest to the Paekdu Highland.

Determined to build a paradise in the land bearing immortal footmarks of President Kim Il Sung, Jong Min carries through the party's policy under adversity with an active help of the chairman of the party cell and other comrades, and rears the trailblazers to be true masters of the Paekdu highland.

Jong Min and other pioneers overcome all trials and bring a new spring to Paekdu highland, rich and vast.

"Paekdusan Prize"

● An opening ceremony of the "Paekdusan Prize" Sports Contests was held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on February 10.

The opening ceremony which was attended by Chong Jun Gi, alternate member of the political bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-Premier, and personages concerned, and sportsmen, working people in the city, school youth and children, was addressed by Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee.

Participating in the contests are many sportsmen of sports teams in the capital and local areas.

Various games including gymnastics, basketball, volleyball and boxing will be held in the contests.

The contests will continue in Pyongyang and local areas till early March.

Int. Speed Skating Tournament

● Korean girl skater Han Chun Ok placed second in the women's 1,000 metres and our boy skater Kim Song Hi third in the men's 500 metres at the 47th International Speed Skating Tournament which was held in Kirov, the Soviet Union, over February 9-10, according to a KCNA report.

Feb. 12 Election Stern Political Judgement on Gen. Chon

Far Eastern Economic Review, in its Feb. 28 issue, said that the Feb. 12 election results represented "a stern political judgement" on the Chon Du Hwan junta and that south Korean voters "demonstrated support for a commitment to fight for the restoration of those democratic institutions curbed by Chun since he came to power in 1980." Excerpts from the story follow:

A large number of South Korean voters delivered a stern political judgment on the government of President Chun Doo Hwan in the 12 February general election for a new national assembly Hardline oppositionist supporters of dissident leaders Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam, who have become known as the "two Kims," made a strong showing in must key urban areas, including Seoul, Pusan, Taegu and Inchon.

Chun's ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) limited its losses to only three seats and maintained a controlling majority in the single-chamber parliament. But its electoral success, helped by a controversial election law which favours DJP candidates, was overshadowed by the voters support for a stronger opposition. In 50 of 92 districts, they abandoned candidates from the moderate and tame opposition Democratic Korea Party (DKP) in favour of the more radical New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP).

Voter support for the DJP reflected a desire for political stability, but votes cast for the NKDP at the same time demonstrated support for a commitment to fight for the restoration of those democratic institutions curbed by Chun since he came to power in 1980. NKDP candidates focused their campaigns on the issues pushed by the two Kims: freedom of the press; an independent judiciary, and the direct, popular election of the president.

The election results present Chun with the choice of coming to terms with a much more determined opposition or risk facing more serious political unrest in the years remaining in his term of office, which is due to end in 1988. The country is scheduled to host two important international events which, in part, are to demonstrate South Korea's coming of age – the Asian Games in 1986 and the Olympics in 1988.

With the DJP now saying it is ready to strike a dialogue with the NKDP, Chun seems aware of the far-reaching implications of the NKDP's gains.

Flushed with victory, NKDP chairman Lee Min Woo commented: "This is a miracle." He said he could have scored bigger victories "had there been a clean and fair vote." One of his top priorities, he said, will be to seek a merger with the DKP and other opposition groups to form a broad opposition coalition.

By winning 50 seats across the country, the NKDP has now replaced the DKP as the main opposition group in the single-chamber parliament. The DKP garnered only 26 seats, a hefty drop from the 57 seats it won in the previous election in March 1981. "I have no comment except to say we should make a fresh start and regain our opposition character," said DKP president Yoo Chi Song.

The NKDP, despite the fact it had only three weeks to organise itself and just 20 days of restricted campaigning, shamed the DJP in five key areas of Seoul, Pusan and Taegu . In Seoul's wealthy Kangnam district, DJP candidate Lee Tae Sup, a member of Chun's cabinet, was beaten by Lee Jung-Jae, a long-time DKP figure who recently benefited from the lifting of a ban on political activities of some oppositionists.

And in the capital's Chongno-Chunggu district – considered the most prestigious in the nation – while DJP assembly floor leader Lee Jong Chan succeeded in his re-election bid for one of the district's seats, the other went to NKDP candidate Lee Min Woo, formerly an unknown in the area. Lee MinWoo's victory was not only a surprise in the DJP but a worrying one, given that the NKDP candidate drew almost as many votes as his DJP rival.

In the southern city of Taegu, Han Pyong Chae, DJP chairman of the national assembly's judiciary committee, was beaten by Lee Man Sop, a Korea National Party (KNP) candidate and foremerly a supporter of the late president Park Chung Hee. And in the neighbouring port city of Pusan three of the ruling party's candidates lost to the NKDP and other parties. Among the more crushing defeats was that of Yun Sok Sun, the powerful DJP deputy secretary-general and a former Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) officer.

Despite the new opposition's show of strength, the DJP will continue to enjoy a confortable majority in the 276-member assembly since, under the electral law, 61 additional seats are awarded the party which wins the largest share of the popular vote. With the 87 seats won by the DJP and the 61 seats awarded if for winning the largest single share of the vote the DJP will hold 148 seats – only a few seats less than it held before the election. This compares with the NKDP's strength of 67, the DKP's total of 35 and the 20 seats picked up by the KNP.

Helped by a record turnout – more than 84% of the country's 2.4 million eligible voters east their ballots, the highest percentage in 27 years – the NKDP won in all of Seoul's 14 districts (the DJP won only three seats in Seoul, with the rest going to other groups), six out of 12 districts in Pusan and two of six districts in Taegu.

The NKDP won 43.2% of the popular vote in Seoul as against the DJP's 27.4% and, in Pusan, it won 37.5% compared with the DJP's 28.6%. Nationwide, the DJP won 35.2% of the popular vote, less than the 38% it vowed to win.

By contrast, the NKDP, with both of its leading figures – the two Kims – under house arrest, won 29.4% of the nationwide vote, overshadowing the opposition DKP which only picked up 19.9% of the nation's voter support. The rest of the vote was spread among candidates representing the KNP and various splinter groups.

One interesting feature of the election was the heavy student participation in campaigning; mostly in support of the NKDP – drawn by the party's promise to help restore freedom of press and revise the constitution to provide for the direct popular election of the president. While the DJP relied mostly on money and organised groups of voters for its success, dissident students helped generate a mood of sympathy for the NKDP, booing DJP candidates and noisily applauding NKDP candidates at campaign rallies.

Another interesting feature of the election was the number of new faces who picked up seats against tremendous odds – shortages of campaign funds lack of media exposure and at times harassment from police.

Flashed with victory NKDP chairman Lee Min Woo commented. "This is a miracle."He siad he could have scored bigger victories "had there been a clean and fair vote." One of his top priorities, he said, will be to seek a merger with the DKP and other opposition groups to form a broad opposition coaliton. Once that was achieved, Lee said, he would posses enough votes to call the assembly into session or pass a no-confidence motion against the government.

Washington Post Editorial on Election in S. Korea

Here are exerpts from an editorial of The Washington Post on the Feb. 12 general assembly election in south Korea. The editorial was reprinted by International Herald Tribune, Feb. 16-17, 1985:

A chilling police rush to "protect" a returning opposition figure brought the government of South Korea deservedly harsh condemnation just last weekend. On Tuesday, however, and election was held that produced a rather contrary reaction. The party of Kim Dae Jung, the returning exile, ran directly against the "military dictatorship" of Chun Doo Hwan and took 50 seats.

Did some of us perhaps give too much importance to the well-publicized drama of Kim Dae Jung's return? The image of him as an abused politician seems not to square with the reality of the leeway offered his party in the campaign and with its success of the polls. But there is a reasonable explanation for it.

President Chun has the police on tap. He wanted to demonstrate his control of the turf when Mr. Kim returned, and he did, in a heavy-handed way. It remains, however, that President Chun, partly in response in American "quiet diplomacy," has been opening up the system somewhat; releasing prisoners, readmitting banned people to academic and political life. President Chun fit Mr. Kim into this pattern letting him back in time to resume a shadow political role and to give his party a home stretch boost – a kind ot advertisement for President Chun too. There is no contradiction between the airport rough stuff and an electoral process giving the opposition wider play: both reflect Mr. Chun's decisions. And both leave Mr. Chun firmly in control. This is the point. The military dominates politics, Mr. Chun, a retired general, represents the military class. Moreover, Korea's is a presidential system: the national assembly has no real power and the constitution gives the president's party a lock on it. The opposition will have more of a forum now. This could produce street and student actions of a sort that have traditionally led Korean presidents to show muscle. Still, the opposition has no ready way to reach power.

How is change to come about in a place like South Korea, with an increasingly middle-class society eager for democracy and an ambitions officer class bent on power? Internal forces will supply most of the answer. As South Korea's defender, patron and well-wisher, however, Washington cannot stop pressing for change. It must do all it can to guide the Koreans institutionally and to school them against abuses of police power. Otherwise, the cause of democracy is undermined there, and support for Korea is undermined here.

Something else is undermined, too. If the American government does not work effectively for freedom in friendly states, it diminishes its claim to be truly interested in working for freedom in unfriendly states. Korea is testing American good faith.

Quaker Leader Ham Sok Hon Nominated as Nobel Peace Prize Candidate

The American Friends Service Committee said on Feb. 18 it has nominated Ham Sok Hon, a Korean philosopher and disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, to receive the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize.

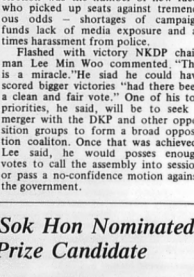
As a co-recipient of the prize in 1947, the Quaker Relief Organization is entitled to make a nomination each year.

Ham, 84, a Quaker and human rights and peace activist, has spent most of his life advocating democracy, human rights and reunification.

He has also been a persistent and longtime advocate of the abolition of the military regimes established in south Korea.

"The nomination comes at a time when north and south Korea have undertaken small but promising steps to reopen dialogue," said Asia Bennett, executive secretary of the Quaker group.

"The recent offering and accepting of emergency aid from north to south Korea was based on the recognition of the inseparabel and rich history of the Korean people, despite the 38th parallel which divides the country," she added.



Ham Sok Hon

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